

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6269

BILL NUMBER: SB 424

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 2, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Pests and Pathogens.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Mishler
FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Bischoff

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill includes pests and pathogens that are injurious to natural resources in the definition of "pest or pathogen" for purposes of certain laws concerning entomology and plant pathology. It allows the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to prescribe the boundaries of an area where a pest or pathogen is located and to declare the area to be an infested area.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Natural Resources Study Committee.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The proposal could have a minimal impact on DNR expenses. Under existing law, the DNR must declare all or part of a township as infested. The proposal would allow the DNR to declare the boundaries of the infested area. For example, a river could form the boundary of an infestation instead of a township boundary. The specific impact, if any, is indeterminable and not expected to be significant.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Although the effect on DNR expenses, if any, is not expected to be significant, IC 14-24-4-5 provides that any expenses incurred by the DNR as a result of an inspection must be certified to the auditor of the county where the site is located. The county auditor must place the assessment on the tax duplicates of the county, and the assessment must be collected as state and county taxes are collected and paid over to the DNR. Any effect that the proposal would have on DNR expenses could subsequently affect any county involved.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: DNR.

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.